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POLTOS 2120, 2126. 7/62.80 11-2959

Department has been considering what procedural steps could be taken to give NATO sense of fuller participation in dealing with Berlin and German problems, and proposes following:

1. When the Four-Power Working Group has completed its draft of a proposed reply to the Soviet note of January 10, it should be supplied to NATO immediately, without awaiting further governmental approval.
2. Allow NATO one calendar week thereafter, if necessary, to consider draft.
3. Agree that following the adjournment of the Working Group's activity in Washington, further meetings on substance should take place in Paris, to gain the advantage of the Council's presence there.
4. Reactivate at earliest appropriate moment the NATO European Security Committee

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Committee as a useful mechanism for NATO consultation. (This presumably would be when Working Group begins Paris meetings).

We are considering, in effort to be helpful, suggestions as to what might go into the replies which NATO members other than the four will make to the Soviet note of January 10.

Foregoing should be put to Foreign Offices soonest, stressing need to take action to put NATO in better fram of mind than evidenced by REFTELS.

Dalles
(LTM)

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